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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Receives \$880,000 Grant for Low-Income and First Generation Students

SAN LUIS OBISPO - Cal Poly recently received an \$880,000 grant to help middle/junior high and high school students from low-income and first-generation families pursue a college education.

The grant from the U.S. Department of Education's TRIO Talent Search Program will fund Cal Poly's Educational Talent Search program through 2011.

"We are honored that the Department of Education recognized our local need for this program and supported our plan to address that need," said Nelda Olvera, educational talent search director. "We are thrilled to have the opportunity to continue our work with our student participants."

ETS serves 600 participant students in target middle/junior high and high schools throughout San Luis Obispo and northern Santa Barbara counties by providing college information through interactive workshops and information sessions. The program also offers various educational outreach strategies designed to develop student motivation and supplement their academic preparation.

The Talent Search Program provides academic, career and financial counseling, encourages students to graduate from high school, and encourages them to enroll in a college or university of their choice.

TRIO Talent Search offers grants through a competitive process. There are more than 465 Talent Search Programs nationwide. Cal Poly has been receiving this grant since 2002.

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